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Cover: Food Inspector John Earnshaw (in fedora) looks over the produce in a District of Columbia market. Food inspectors went to work after the passage of the 1906 Food and Drugs Act. The law prohibited the adulteration of food by removal of valuable constituents, substitution of ingredients so as to reduce quality, the addition of deleterious ingredients, and the use of spoiled animal and vegetable products. (National Archives photo)

Medical Malpractice Cases Resolved by Voluntary Binding Arbitration

■ Comprehensive data on most of the medical malpractice cases resolved in the last decade through voluntary binding arbitration have been made available in a computerized roster of cases compiled by the American Arbitration Association under a grant from the National Center for Health Services Research (NCHSR). One hundred data items were sought for each of 300 cases, primarily from the California Hospital and Medical Association's arbitration program and Michigan's statutory program. The data, which were drawn from such sources as arbitration case files and insurer claim files, provide substantive and interpretive information on:

- the population of patients whose health care gave rise to malpractice cases
- types of injuries and the treatments that triggered the claims
- legal bases for claims and damages sought
- legal paths used in resolving the cases
- arbitration agreements, panelists, and costs.

The data base, in punchcard or computer tape form, along with a manual that describes data coding, significance, and limitations, is available to researchers. Additional information on the data base may be obtained from Dr. Edward Schwartz, NCHSR, Rm. 8-30, Center Bldg., 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Md. 20782, telephone (301) 436-6938.

Design Problems Handicap Child Health Program

■ Medicaid's Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) child health program has not proved to be a successful catalyst for changing the nation's health care system to benefit needy children. Nationwide, only 28 percent of the children who were eligible to participate in the program were screened in 1978, according to a study funded by the National Center for Health Services Research (NCHSR).

EPSDT's preventive and treatment services were built on State Medicaid programs, by stages. Anne-Marie Foltz, PhD, a researcher from New York University, reports that placing and constructing a broad health monitoring program in an existing system which functioned primarily as a medical bill-paying agency has led to a variety of implementation problems. She points out that EPSDT was an entirely new type of program for the Medicaid agencies. When EPSDT was created in 1967, most States had no readily available systems for providing screening, treatment, and followup services. Furthermore, lack of clear goals and concrete guidelines for the program and its slow, incremental development have made the task of administering EPSDT complex. These problems have in turn prevented the Federal Government from overseeing State EPSDT programs effectively. Poor management, lack of commitment to the program, cost underestimation, and little professional medical consensus as to standards for preventive

care also have impeded the implementation of EPSDT in some States.

Foltz suggests that equity in health care for poor children cannot be achieved by an approach that focuses on their needs alone. She concludes that needy children are likely to benefit more from a comprehensive, universal child health system.

A free copy of the summary of Foltz' analysis (written as her doctoral dissertation) is available from NCHSR. (NCHSR awards grants for doctoral dissertation research through an annual program aimed at encouraging promising new researchers of health services and at stimulating new studies of critical health delivery issues.) Copies of the final report can be purchased from the National Technical Information Service.

Executive Summary. The Politics of Prevention: Child Health and Medicaid. Publications and Information Branch, Rm. 7-44, Center Bldg., 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Md. 20782. Telephone (301) 436-8970. Self-addressed, self-adhesive mailing labels accompanying requests are appreciated. Final Report (same title). National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, Va. 22161.

education notes

American Industrial Hygiene Association meeting of the Florida chapter. The annual conference of the Florida chapter of the American Industrial Hygiene Association will be held February 19-20, 1982, at the Occupational Health Center, University of South Florida.

For further information, contact Carolyn Kopachik, Occupational Health Center, University of South Florida, Department of Comprehensive Medicine, Box 12, 12901 North 30th Street, Tampa, Fla. 33612, telephone (813) 974-3294.

Nutrition in pregnancy. The Sixth National Seminar on Nutrition in Pregnancy will be held at the Health Sciences Center, University of Louisville, March 8-10, 1982. The emphasis of this 3-day invitational meeting for practicing nutritionists will be on the practical and useful concepts of nutrition in human pregnancy. The topics will include recent studies on:

- nutritional needs of pregnancy
- nutrition and fetal development
- nutrition in complicated pregnancy

- nutritional needs of pregnant adolescents

- alcohol, drugs, and pregnancy

- assessment of nutrition for both mother and neonate.

Continuing education credits will be requested from the American Dietetic Association. Limited funds are available for stipends. For further information, contact Gerald D. Swim, Assistant Dean, School of Medicine, University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky. 40292.

publications

NEW NCHS POLICY ON PUBLICATIONS

In the spring of 1981 the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) implemented a new distribution policy which limits the free distribution of certain of its publications—*Vital Statistics of the United States*, *Vital and Health Statistics Series*, and other major reports—to libraries and other selected institutions. These reports are on sale from the Government Printing Office. Ordering information can be obtained from the Scientific and Technical Information Branch, Division of Data Services, NCHS, Rm. 1-57, 3700 East-West Highway 20782, telephone (301) 436-NCHS. *Monthly Vital Statistics Reports*, *Advance Data*, and other periodicals as well as catalogs and listings remain available to all users. For information on publications, distribution policy, reference questions, or other assistance, call the NCHS information staff (301) 436-8500.

FEDERAL

National Center for Health Services Research, PHS, Rm. 7-44, Center Bldg., 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

Determinants of Children's Health. DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 81-3309. July 1981, 26 pages.

Employer and Employee Expenditures for Private Health Insurance. DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 31-3297. June 1981, 15 pages.

NMCES Estimation and Sampling Variances in the Household Survey, Instruments and Procedures 2. DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 81-3281. June 1981, 33 pages.

Health Care Financing Administration, ORDS Publications, Rm. 1E9, Oak Meadows Bldg., 6340 Security Blvd., Baltimore, Md. 21207.

Medicare Data Systems. DHHS Publication No. (HCFA) 03111. July 1981, 14 pages.

Health Care Financing Conference Proceedings. Issues in Physician Reimbursement. DHHS Publication No. (HCFA) 03121. August 1981, 211 pages.

The Person-Number Systems of Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Israel. *Vital and Health Statistics, Series 2, No. 84*. DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 80-1358. June 1980, 59 pages. *National Center for Health Statistics, PHS, Rm. 1-57, Center Bldg., 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.*

U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 20402. Orders should be accompanied by check or money order and should be identified by title and GPO stock No.

Symposium on Biological Effects and Measurement of Light Sources—Rockville, Maryland, June 9-10, 1980. DHHS Publication No. (FDA) 81-8156. \$6.50. GPO stock No. 017-015-00191-1.

Airborne Ultrasound: Measurement and Possible Adverse Effects. DHHS Publication No. (FDA) 81-8163. \$2. GPO stock No. 017-015-00193-8.

National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5258 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, Va. 22161. Full payment must accompany orders, which should be identified by title and PB number.

Handbook of Computed Tomography X-Ray Spectra. DHHS Publication No. (FDA) 81-8162. Order No. PB 81-205890. \$11; \$3.50 microfiche.

1980 Annual Report on the Administration of the Radiation Control for Health and Safety Act of 1968, P.L. 90-602, April 1, 1981. Order No. PB 81-212250. \$9.50; \$3.50 microfiche.

Health Planning Review of Medical Information Systems. By Melville H. Hodge. DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 81-3303. May 1981; 65 pages. Order No. PB 81-223018. \$8; \$3.50 microfiche.

NON-FEDERAL

The Economics of Disability: International Perspectives. 1981, 239 pages; \$15 (add local sales tax plus \$1 to cover postage and handling). UNIPUB, 345 Park Ave. South, New York, N.Y. 10010.

American Hospital Association Guide to the Health Care Field. 1981 edition, 542 pages; \$44 members; \$55 prepaid for nonmembers. AHA catalog No.

010081. *American Hospital Association*, 840 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60611.

Health Care Worker Burnout: What It Is, What To Do About It. By Pamela K. S. Patrick. \$11.95 single copy prepaid. Inquiry Books, P. O. Box 527, Glenview, Ill. 60025.

Love Canal: A Special Report to the Governor and Legislature. April 1981, 69 pages. Copies are available from New York State Department of Health, Health Communications Group, Rm. 1456, Tower Bldg., Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza, Albany, N.Y. 12237.

Determinants and Consequences of Maternal Employment: An Annotated Bibliography 1968-1980. By Marsha Hurst and Ruth E. Zambrana. 85 pages, softcover \$3.75 plus postage. BPW Supply, 11732 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, Md. 20852.

AIM's Guide to Dynamic Fitness. By Louise D. Piazza. 15 pages; free single copies plus 50 cents for handling. Free offer ends December 31, 1981. AIM-Fitness, P. O. Box 19269-A, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Health Care Costs: What Can You Do? Single copies of brochure may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope (No. 10). Lots of 100 may be purchased for \$15. The Voluntary Effort, 1001 West, 840 North Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

Business and Health: Basic and Supplemental Readings. By Loraine Adkins, August 1981, 22 pages; \$2 per copy plus postage. Institute for Health Planning, 702 N. Blackhawk Ave., Madison, Wis. 53705.

Mastering Medical Language. By Anthony L. Spatola. 1982, 496 pages; cloth \$16.95 (ISBN 0-13-560151-7). Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J. 07632.

The Benefits of Health and Safety Regulation. Edited by Allen R. Ferguson. February 1981, 296 pages; \$22.50 (ISBN 0-88410-721-3). Ballinger Publishing Company, 17 Dunster St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

Consultation and Education in Mental Health: Problems and Prospects. By Richard F. Ketterer. June 1981, 245 pages; hardcover \$20 (ISBN 0-8039-1638-8); softcover \$9.95 (ISBN 0-8039-1639-6). Sage Publications, Inc., 275 South Beverly Dr., Beverly Hills, Calif. 90212.

Research Services Directory: A Guide to Research Organizations Serving Business, Government, and other Orga-

Air Ambulance Guidelines. By Willis A. Wingert, Jr. Complimentary copies may be obtained by writing General Service Division, National Highway

Medical Education: Institutions, Characteristics and Programs. A Background Paper. May 1981, 25 pages. *Association of American Medical Colleges, One Dupont Circle, NW., Washington, D.C. 20036.*

Health Aspects of Treated Sewage Re-Use. *EURO Reports and Studies No. 42.* 1981, 42 pages; 4 Swiss francs (ISBN 92-890-1208-9).

Planning and Organization of Emergency Medical Services. *EURO Reports and Studies No. 35, 1981, 37 pages, 4 Swiss francs (ISBN 92-890-1201-3).*

1981 Subject and Author Index

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Key to Classification of Subject Index

- (*) Original signed article
- (CR) Conference report
- (LN) Legal note
- (PR) Publication review
- (SR) Short report

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SECOND CLASS RATE



OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300
